

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/026,742	SAWADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Susan S. Lee	2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to ____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. The drawings filed on ____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/27/01
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other See Continuation Sheet (below).

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance of claims 1, 4-13, and 17-20 is the inclusion of a warning executing unit executing selectively one or both of the warning control of the first warning unit and the warning control of the second warning unit. When the defective condition of the image forming device continues for a time, exceeding a predetermined period, without repair, the warning executing unit executing either one of the warning controls of the first and second warning units or both. This is found in all of claims 1, 4-13, 17-20, but not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

The primary reason for allowance of claims 2 and 14-16 is the inclusion of a warning executing unit executing selectively one or both of the warning control of the first warning unit and the warning control of the second warning unit. When an error is detected, the warning executing unit executing the warning control of the second warning unit, and when the defective condition of the image forming device continues for a time, exceeding a predetermined period, without repair, the warning executing unit executing the warning control of the first warning unit. This is found in all of claims 2 and 14-16, but not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

The primary reason for allowance of claim 3 is the inclusion of a warning executing unit executing selectively one or both of the warning control of the first warning unit and the warning control of the second warning unit. When the defective condition of the image forming device continues for a time, exceeding a predetermined period, without repair, the warning executing unit executing the warning control of the

first warning unit. This is found in all of claim 3, but not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Yamaoka et al. discloses a jam detecting device in a copying machine. Shimamura discloses a remote maintenance system for LAN connected devices. Fukushima discloses a monitoring device for a plurality of image forming apparatuses. Kikuno discloses a managing system for image forming apparatuses. Matsuo discloses a warning device for a jammed sheet. Sawada et al. discloses a remote service system for a plurality of image forming apparatuses. LoBiondo et al. discloses a remote user interface enabling display of service and fault history. Shimomura et al. discloses an image forming apparatus having self-repair function. Kobayashi et al. (Japan, 170) discloses a toner concentration abnormality detector and fail safe device.

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner:

The Japanese characters have to be replaced with English in Fig. 1.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above drawing changes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan S. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-2137. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri., 10:30-8:00, Second Monday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Art Grimley can be reached on 571-272-2136 or 571-272-2800 (Ext. 52). The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Susan S. Lee
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

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